

# El Mirage

## Monthly Newsletter

[www.cityofelmirage.org](http://www.cityofelmirage.org)

City of El Mirage  
12145 NW Grand Ave.  
El Mirage, AZ 85335

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Vol. 7, No. 02

623-876-2978

### Mayor's Message:

# 2016 State of the City

On behalf of the City of El Mirage, I am pleased to present highlights from the 2016 State of the City. We are extremely proud of the progress our City has made. We have come from a humble farming community, to having a vibrant community with an active economic development strategy that will revitalize our downtown; El Mirage is open for business.

The City continues to improve resident services by improving infrastructure, offering new recreational amenities, and hosting fun family events.

During the last decade, El Mirage quadrupled its population to just over 32,000 residents. Sound decisions made by this City Council and City Management regarding

our financial future have resulted in higher bond ratings and lower taxes. El Mirage is dedicated to continually improving the quality of life for all of our residents and business owners.

For a full copy of the 2016 State of the City, please visit [www.cityofelmirage.org](http://www.cityofelmirage.org).

Thank you for making El Mirage one of the West Valley's best places to live.

Sincerely,

*Lana Mook*

The Honorable,  
Lana Mook Mayor

**MORE STATE OF CITY ON 14**

## El Mirage Supports Desert Diamond Casino-West Valley



A copy of the resolution and Friendship Pottery received during the Tohono O'Odham Nation during the opening day ceremony at Desert Diamond Casino-West Valley.

The City of El Mirage Mayor and Council passed a resolution supporting the Tohono O'Odham Nation Desert Diamond Casino and were honored to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the casino on December 19, 2015.

**CITY OF EL MIRAGE  
OFFICE CLOSURE NOTICE**

City Hall offices and Customer Service will be closed in recognition of the following holiday:

Presidents' Day      February 15, 2016

Fire and Police Emergency and Non-Emergency Services are fully operational during the holiday closures.

Utility Payments: Residents wishing to make payments for utility bills may utilize the drop box located in the Customer Service parking lot on Alto Street or the <http://www.XpressBillPay.com> feature on the City's website at <http://www.cityofelmirage.org>.

Trash Holiday Schedule: <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/DocumentCenter/View/9976>

## Journey to Excellence



El Mirage Police Explorer Post #2780 was awarded the Learning for Life's 2015 Journey to Excellence Gold Award. Story on page 4.

## Subway Opens in El Mirage

The City of El Mirage was excited to join Subway to celebrate their grand opening in December 2015.

Subway is located at the corner of El Mirage Road and Cactus Road in the Shell Station building.

From left to right: City Manager Dr. Spencer A. Isom, Subway Sandwich Artist Jaricza Marrufo, Subway Manager Mesias Sanchez, Subway District Manager Jesus Bautista, and El Mirage Economic Development Specialist Tom Doyle





# El Mirage Construction Update

On December 17, 2015, the City of El Mirage held a bid opening for the next phases of El Mirage Road from Cactus Road to the Grand Avenue frontage road and Thunderbird Road from 127th Avenue to El Frio Street. The project will add bike lanes, landscaping, wide sidewalks and decorative lighting. Sunland Asphalt will begin working on the project in early spring.

The City recently awarded a contract to Axiom Construction to replace the water main along El Mirage Road from Thunderbird Road to Santa Fe Lane. This project was funded by a Community Development Block Grant with approval from the Maricopa County Human Services Department. This project will add fire hydrants near the municipal court and replace all existing hydrants with new ones.



ADOT is finalizing a design to reconfigure Thunderbird Road from El Frio Street to Grand Avenue. This project will advertise for bids in February and is anticipated to begin before Memorial Day.

Construction is progressing on El Mirage Road between Gateway Park and Cactus Road. The City’s contractor is working on underground utilities and is getting ready to construct the new roadway.

Maricopa County is finishing the design for El Mirage Road from Northern Avenue to Gateway Park. Utility companies will soon begin relocating their lines in that area. Relocations are expected to be complete by next summer.

ADOT and the City of Surprise will begin the much anticipated Bell Road and Grand Ave/US 60 interchange project. This project will have a major impact on regional traffic flow. Further project information is available at:

<http://azdot.gov/bellandgrand>, or <http://www.surpriseaz.gov/bellandgrand>.

For more information, visit [www.cityofelmirage.org/ConstructionUpdate](http://www.cityofelmirage.org/ConstructionUpdate) or contact: Chris Hauser, P.E. – Assistant City Engineer  
12145 NW Grand Ave., El Mirage, AZ 85335  
P: 623-876-2971 | E: [chauser@cityofelmirage.org](mailto:chauser@cityofelmirage.org)

### Hazardous Waste Disposal Information

For help on how to identify and properly dispose of hazardous material, visit [www.cityofelmirage.org/recycling](http://www.cityofelmirage.org/recycling) or contact the City’s Public Works Department at 623-935-6405.



## want to trust your legal documents to a website?



**Sharon Ravenscroft, Esq.,**  
The Cavanagh Law Firm,  
PA, with offices in  
**Sun City and Phoenix,**  
can be reached at  
**(623) 815-7451**  
or [Sravenscroft@CavanaghLaw.com](mailto:Sravenscroft@CavanaghLaw.com).  
For more information  
regarding wills, trusts,  
healthcare powers of  
attorney, premarital  
agreements, domestic  
partnership agreements  
as well as business  
law, see: [www.sharonravenscroft.com](http://www.sharonravenscroft.com).

- P**ersonalized legal service means a licensed attorney will explain:
- 1** How a Revocable Living Trust can help you and those important to you.
  - 2** Your Powers of Attorney can empower the right people with the appropriate duties.
  - 3** Optimizing your IRA beneficiary designations can avoid unnecessary additional income taxation.
  - 4** Preventing court consensorships will protect a minor’s inheritance.
  - 5** Avoiding probate can prevent involvement of legal heirs who are not beneficiaries of your estate.

Questions like these can be answered with no extra fee. We respond to our clients when questions arise, even years after the documents are prepared.

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Martin & Janet  
Ramirez

Youth  
G.A.N.G  
Every  
Thursday  
Nights  
at  
7PM

El Mirage News

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# THE BLUE BYLINE



## News from the El Mirage Police Department

12401 W. Cinnabar Ave. • 623-933-1341 • [www.cityofelmirage.org/police](http://www.cityofelmirage.org/police)  
Follow us on Facebook. Sign up for emergency notifications at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)

## FOCUS ON CODE ENFORCEMENT: WEED CONTROL

Many of the Code Enforcement cases generated during the spring involve overgrown weeds. Even though winter rains are great for the State, they result in a large amount of excessive weeds on residential and business properties. Weeds, by City Code, cannot be in excess of six inches in height on any property within the city. This code alone will keep code officers busy for the next several months. Residents can assist in keeping their neighborhood attractive by cleaning their lots before the weeds become too tall.

When code officers identify a violation, the property owner or resident will first receive a written warning notice and a reasonable amount of time to correct the problem. If, upon re-inspection, the violation has not been resolved, a citation can be issued and a fine assessed. The primary goal is to gain voluntary compliance and eliminate the violation.

The City of El Mirage encourages all residents to be



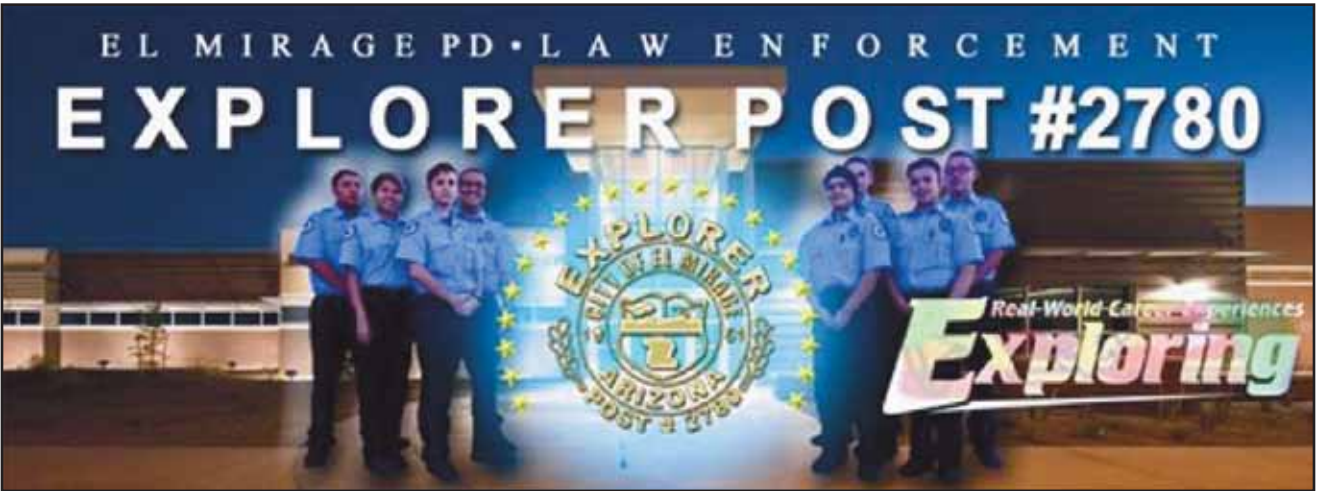
community-minded and take pride in our city. Working together is the most effective program to keep our neighborhoods healthy, safe, and inviting to all who work

and live here. For further information, visit the Police Department Code Enforcement web page at [www.cityofelmirage.org](http://www.cityofelmirage.org).

When spring weather comes there is a desire to open the doors and windows to let fresh air in. It can also bring more opportunities for burglaries. Here are some tips that are good reminders to follow any time of the year:

- Lock all outside doors before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Close and secure windows.
- Close your vehicle windows and lock your car doors.
- Park vehicles in the garage.
- Don't tempt a thief! Remove valuables from inside your car. Don't leave bikes, tools, or other valuables outside.
- Install lighting outside. A motion-sensitive light is helpful for backyards.

## EXPLORERS WIN AWARD



ElMiragePoliceExplorer Post #2780 was awarded the Learning for Life's 2015 Journey to Excellence Gold Award. This award is the

Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) council performance recognition program designed to encourage and reward success.

BSA is the sponsoring organization for Explorer Posts. Only three other agencies in Arizona have achieved

this award - Chandler, Glendale and Phoenix Police Departments. Congratulations to our Explorers on their success!

El Mirage Police Department - Property and Evidence Division UNCLAIMED PROPERTY - NOTICE TO CLAIM PROPERTY		
Case #	Description	Name
E15120077	Bicycle	McCaran, Michael
E15120754	Clothing	Moreno, Niko
E15121058	Identification	Valdez, Herculano
E15121172	Wallet	Seppala, Jason
E15121192	Jewelry	Samando, Sami
E15121203	Cell Phone	Jacober, Zachary
E15121258	Cell Phone / Currency	Edwards, Alec
E15121258	Key(s)	Edwards, Alec
E15121265	Clothing	Unknown
E15121319	Tool Box/ Misc. Tools	Unknown
E15121320	Bag w/ Misc. Tools	Grimes, Troy
E15121320	Currency	Unknown
E15121445	Key(s)	Unknown
E15121447	Miscellaneous	Elbert, Raven
E15121459	Knife , Watch	Pitones, Juan
E15121521	Purse	O'Leary, Ashley
E15121578	Key(s)	Unknown
E15121768	Key(s)	Unknown
E15121807	Cell Phone	Unknown
E15121925	Hat	Unknown
E15122058	Bicycle	Essman, Chad
E15122200	Backpack	Unknown
E15122320	Backpack	Lagrassa, Christopher
E16010128	Wallet	Newman, Brandon
E16010209	Knife	Rayzale, Scott
E16010222	Bicycle	Unknown
E16010228	Belt	Cabrera, Jesus
E16010454	Knife	Unknown

Photo ID is required.  
Call 623-500-3038 for an appointment to claim your property.  
Property not claimed by 02/01/16 will be disposed of in accordance with the law.



Mobile Enforcement February 2016			
Date	Van 1	Van 2	Trailer
1	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	13700 W 127 Ave n/b X003	12100 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T008
2	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
3	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
4	Acoma @ 124 Ave s/b A004	13200 Main St n/b M002	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
5	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	12300 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T012	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
6	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
7	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
8	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12600 W Cactus Rd w/b C005
9	12700 W Canterbury n/b C002	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
10	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	13700 W 127 Ave n/b X003	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
11	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	12500 W Varney w/b V001	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
12	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	Acoma @ 129 Ave e/b A005	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
13	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
14	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
15	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12200 W Thompson Ranch Rd e/b T029
16	Acoma @ 124 Ave s/b A004	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
17	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	13200 Main St n/b M002	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
18	12600 W Peoria w/b P001	12300 W Thunderbird Rd w/b T012	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
19	12700 W Canterbury n/b C002	Acoma @ 129 Ave w/b A006	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
20	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
21	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
22	Acoma @ 124 Ave n/b A003	127th Ave @ Sunnyside s/b X007	12700 N El Mirage Rd s/b E025
23	12200 N Dysart Rd n/b D017	12500 W Varney w/b V001	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
24	12600 W Peoria e/b P002	12500 W Varney w/b V001	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
25	12900 N 129 Ave n/b X001	Acoma @ 129 Ave e/b A005	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
26	Acoma @ 124 Ave s/b A004	13300 N 127 Ave s/b X004	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
27	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007
28	13700 N Dysart Rd s/b D020	14600 N Dysart Rd s/b D002	12100 W Thunderbird Rd e/b T007





Clerk’s Corner... Every Vote Counts!

2016 – PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR



ATTENTION EL MIRAGE VOTERS!!

Numerous elections will be held in Arizona this year and they are listed below for your information.

March 22, 2016	Presidential Preference Election
May 17, 2016	State Special Election
August 30, 2016	Primary Election
November 8, 2016	General Election

Presidential Preference Election (PPE)

This election is a preference election whereby registered voters of participating, recognized political parties cast their vote for who they prefer the Arizona delegates cast their vote for at their respective party’s national convention. It is NOT a primary election; the primary election will be held August 30, 2016 and will NOT contain presidential/vice presidential candidates.

Voters registered as Independents may NOT vote in the PPE because “Independent” is not a recognized political party in Arizona. If you are registered with a recognized political party and are already on the permanent early voter list (PEVL) you will automatically receive an early mail-in ballot for this election.

If you are not on the PEVL and wish to vote, there are limited number of voting locations that are listed on the Maricopa County Elections website or you can request an early ballot from Maricopa County until February 22, 2016; early voting begins February 24, 2016 for this election.

State Special Election

This election is statewide for qualified Arizona voters to vote on Proposition 123 which involves approving \$3.5 billion dollars over the next 10 years toward education in Arizona. You may educate yourself on this proposition by going to the website for the Arizona Secretary of State website at [www.azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/election-information](http://www.azsos.gov/elections/voting-election/election-information) and viewing the Pro and Con arguments for and against this measure under 2016 Voting Information for the May 17th Special State Election.

If not already registered you may do so until April 18, 2016 and early voting for this election begins April 20, 2016; polling locations to be determined.

Primary Election

This election is the State Primary where State, County, and local municipalities’ candidates and issues are voted on; it is both partisan and non-partisan. Unlike the PPE, voters registered as Independents CAN, in fact, vote in the Primary, however, to do so Maricopa County will first send a card requesting the voter chose a recognized party’s ballot to vote on in this election or you will be asked to select one at the polling location on the day of the election. **It is also important to vote in the Primary because many municipal elections are determined at the Primary level and do not go on to the General Election in November.**

Again, if you are on the PEVL you will automatically receive an early ballot in the mail (unless you are registered Independent and you will first receive a card asking which ballot you wish to receive).

If not already registered to vote, you may do so until August 1, 2016 and early voting for this election begins August 3, 2016. Maricopa County has determined there will be no all-mail balloting for this consolidated election and polling locations are yet to be determined.

General Election

This election in 2016 is a Presidential Election and will, of course, be a vote on the next President and Vice President of the United States. There may also be other issues, but the focus will be at the national level.

The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is October 10, 2016 and early voting begins October 12, 2016; polling locations to be determined.

For more information, please contact either City Clerk Sharon Antes at 623-876-2943, [santes@cityofelmirage.org](mailto:santes@cityofelmirage.org) or Maricopa County Elections at 602-506-1511. Make your vote count in 2016, both in the local Councilmember election and the Presidential election, by registering to vote or updating your voter registration information.

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**10111 N. El Mirage Rd #9** South of Peoria on El Mirage Rd.  
**623-972-5823**  
Mon.-Fri. 8am-5:30pm • Sat. 8am-4pm • Closed Sunday



# CUP Spring Clean-Up Event



CUP will be hosting its Spring Clean-Up day on – Saturday, March 5, 2016. The Community Uplift Program or CUP exists to assist citizens of El Mirage who need help due to age, disability or financial limitations, with maintaining their properties. CUP volunteers will trim trees, remove dead plants, pull weeds and do painting when donations are available.

The work is done completely by volunteers, neighbors helping neighbors, along with material donations from local area businesses. To apply for CUP assistance, drop by City Hall, Dysart Community Center or the Fire Station for an application. Applications are also available on the El Mirage website- just put in the search words community uplift. Applications must be

received by February 12 for the March 5th clean up. Property owners will be notified by March 1st if their property has been selected for clean up. For more information, or to become a volunteer for the event, contact Mary Dickson at 623-251-3508, [mdickson@cityofelmirage.org](mailto:mdickson@cityofelmirage.org), or Councilman Selby at 623-876-2928, [lselby@cityofelmirage.org](mailto:lselby@cityofelmirage.org).



### SHIRTS FOR SALE !

The City of El Mirage is selling shirts, window decals and stickers that proudly display the new F35 fighter jet with the saying "Proud Supporter of Luke AFB."

Women and Men Sizes: Small - XXL  
T-Shirts: \$15.00  
Window Decals or Stickers: \$2.00

Available at the Customer Service Department, 14406 N. Alto Street

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Dr. Roy J. Watts

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**Sun City Office**  
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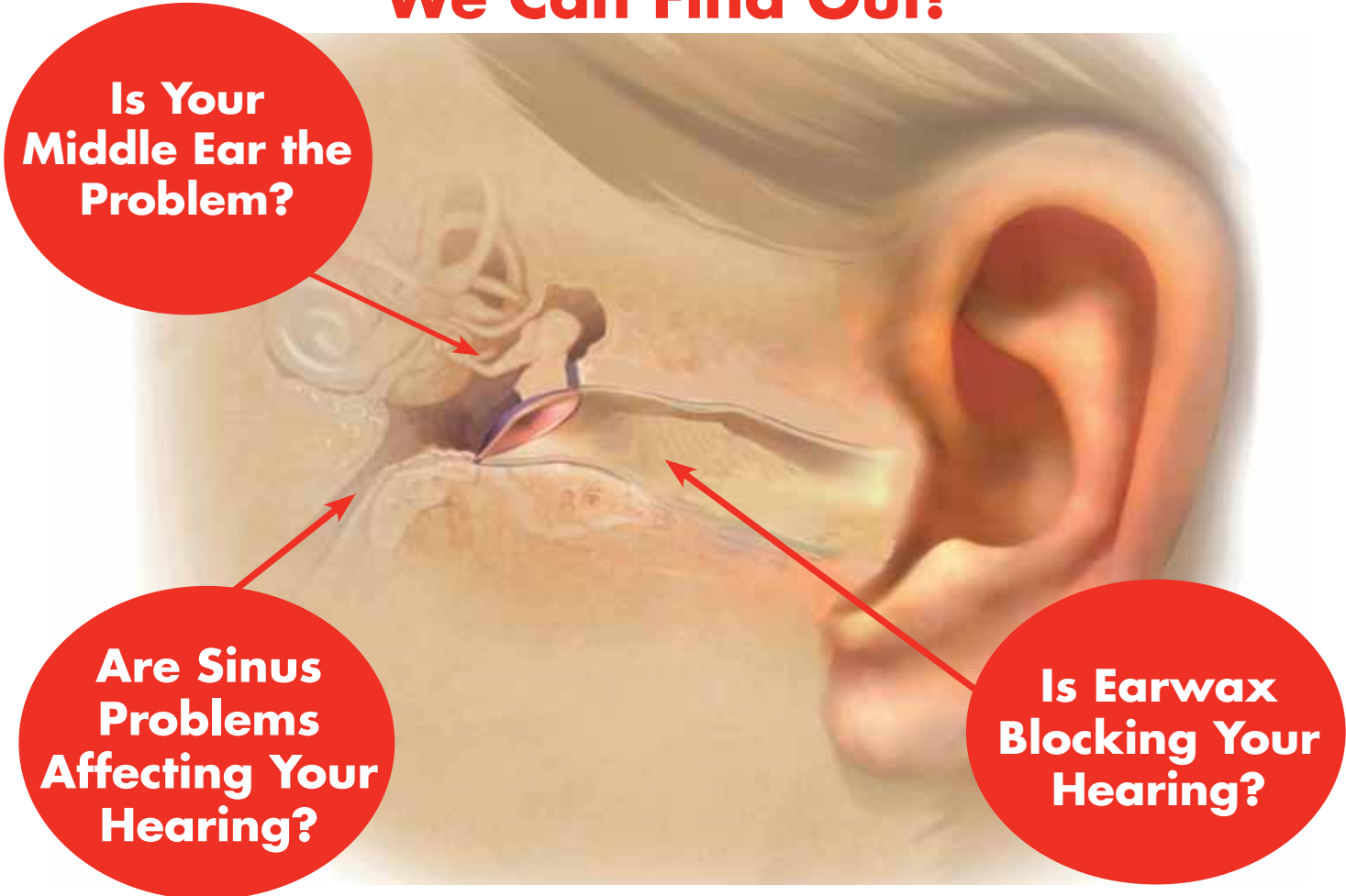
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Daniel Hewson, M.S.  
Owner

Dan Hewson brings over 19 years of experience in the hearing health industry. With a Master's Degree in Audiology from SUNY Fredonia, Dan has extensive experience working in several of the largest Otolaryngology practices in the country. Father, husband and full-time hearing health advocate, Dan is also currently working to earn his Doctorate of Audiology degree; it should be completed by 2018.

Dan was naturally attracted to the field of audiology because he grew up with moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss. If you want to know what hearing impairment is really about and how hearing devices can change your life, Dan Hewson is the one to ask. He's been wearing hearing aids since childhood (38 years) and has an intimate understanding of the hearing impaired.

Because of the comprehensive nature of the hearing evaluation,  
please call ahead for your special appointment.

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Offers Cannot be combined with other offers or previous purchases.

**THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL OFFER**

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**Top-of-the-line Wireless Z Series™ hearing instruments**  
Service and Warranty Package includes:

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Expires: 2/29/2016



# FOCUS ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT



## News from the El Mirage Fire Department

13601 N. El Mirage Road • 623-583-7968 • [www.cityofelmirage.org/fire](http://www.cityofelmirage.org/fire)  
Operations and Administration open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday



# Liquid and Steam Burns can Happen in a Flash

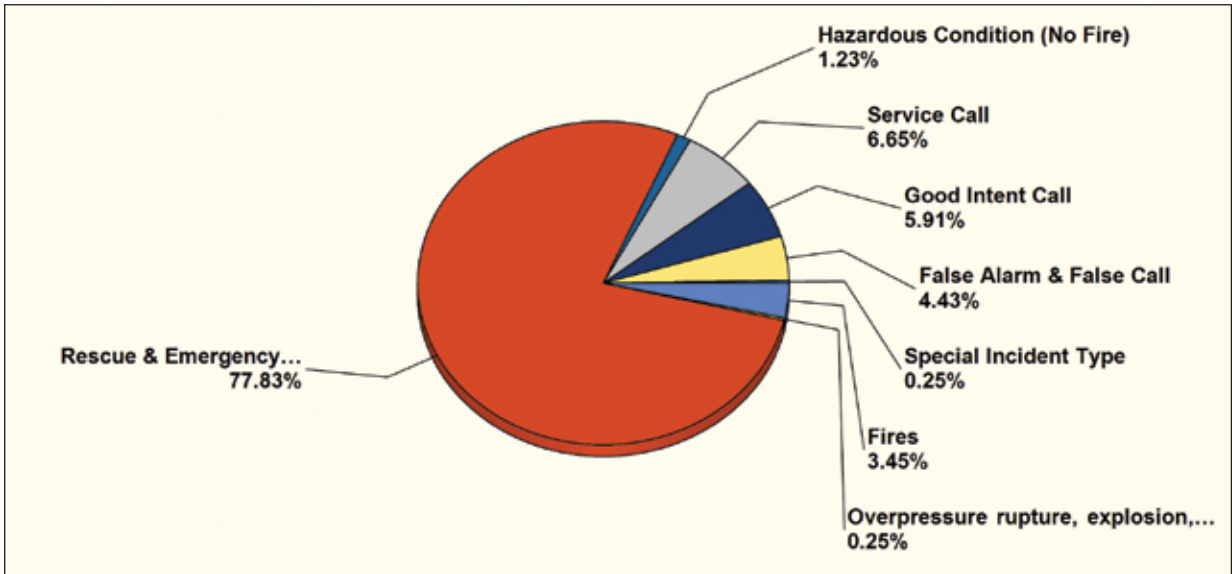
Each year, over 450,000 burn injuries occur in the United States that are serious enough to require medical treatment. Between 2007 and 2013, the proportion of burn center admissions due to scald burns increased from 29.8% to 33.7%.

### Tips to Stay Safe

- Set the water heater at 120 degrees F/48 degrees C or just below the medium setting.
- Use back burners and turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so children cannot pull them down.
- Use oven mitts when cooking or handling hot food and drinks.
- Stir and test food cooked in the microwave before serving.
- Keep hot drinks away from the edge of tables and counters.
- Use a “travel mug” with a tight-fitting lid for all hot drinks.

## City of El Mirage Fire Department Operations Report December 2015

Total Calls for Service = 410  
Average Response Time for All Aid Types: 00:06:52



### Community Outreach

- 12/03/2015: Fire department personnel participated with Thompson Ranch Elementary for their Jaguars Jamboree. Candy canes were handed out by crews along with a truck display
- 12/04/2015: The City of El Mirage Fire Department took part in the Christmas tree lighting. Crews manned a first aid tent and delivered Santa to the event
- 12/05/2015: Montecito Estates utilized the departments Community Outreach webpage to request a unit to assist while they kicked off their toy drive
- 12/11/2015: El Mirage Fire Department held their Cadet Volunteer
- 12/12/2015: El Mirage Fire Department and the El Mirage Charities held the annual Christmas Breakfast at fire station 1221
- 12/17/2015: Crews from station 121 participated in the Dysart Community Center holiday party
- 12/19/2015: El Mirage Fire Department and the El Mirage Charities held “Toys for Kids” day

### Significant Incidents

- 12/02/2015: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a reported house fire
- 12/08/2015: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a reported motor vehicle incident involving a motorcycle. Patient treated and transported to a local hospital
- 12/14/2015: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire.
- 12/15/2015: El Mirage Fire responded to debris

- fire, the fire was extinguished without incident
- 12/30/2015: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a garage fire in the City of Surprise
- 12/30/2015: El Mirage Fire Department responded to a car fire

### Training Activities

- 2000 total training hours, combined Fire and EMS.

## FIRE, BUILDING, AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION REPORT (FBLS) For Period Ending: December 2015

- Staff viewed a webinar on solar photovoltaic installations. It covered plan review and inspection issues. With a large percentage of permits and inspections being PV systems, this was valuable information to keep staff up to date.
- Staff was able to use the days prior to the holiday to do the annual record retention and destruction work as required by the State of Arizona. Inspection records and plans are to be disposed of one year after completion of work.

### Statistics for period of December 2015

- Permits issued - 56
- Plan reviews - 4 Commercial  
45 Residential  
2 Fire
- Inspections - 248 at 138 stops (13 daily average)
- Annual Business Inspections - 10
- Revenue from permits - \$13,788

## EMFD Community Connections

February 2016  
The El Mirage Fire Department will be participating at the Magnificent Motors Car show from 0900-1300 hours at Gentry Park, please stop by and say hello. We will have some handouts for the kids.

### Community Safety Information from your Fire Department

**Bathroom Exhaust Fans**  
Bathroom ceiling exhaust fans are found in a variety of residential occupancies, but also exist in commercial buildings. These fans are great at preventing steamed up mirrors, damp walls, fogged up windows, and removing odors. These fans can, over time, build up lint that acts as an insulator around the motor, causing excessive heat to build up while they are running. The lint provides an easy-to-ignite fuel source which in turn ignites nearby combustible building materials in the ceiling and attic space.  
We recommend that these be cleaned at least every couple of months and more often if your home tends to collect dust faster. A little bit of maintenance can go a long way to prevent destructive fires and provide a safer environment for you and your family.

### El Mirage Fire Department Calendar of Events

#### Community CPR Training CPR + First Aid

March 26, 2016  
June 25, 2016  
September 24, 2016  
December 10, 2016  
9:00am-Noon

#### Fire Extinguisher Class TBD

El Mirage Fire Department  
623-583-7968  
Call to register or for more information.

Watch your kids around water!

### Need to Report a Street Light Outage?



Contact Arizona Public Service at [aps.com/lights](http://aps.com/lights) or call (602) 371-6140. Make sure you have the pole number, which is located about 6 feet up on the street side of the pole. Also have the actual or nearest address or cross streets.



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Our new campus has 96 private rooms with private bathrooms, a 3,156 square foot therapy gymnasium.



7201 W. Camino San Xavier Ave., Glendale, AZ 85308  
Phone: 623-773-6100

[www.centeratarrowhead.com](http://www.centeratarrowhead.com)

Managed by Veritas Management Group [www.veritasmg.com](http://www.veritasmg.com)



# El Mirage Housing Initiatives & Community Outreach

Maricopa County’s Housing Department worked with the City of El Mirage to host a community outreach information meeting on December 15, 2015. Residents from El Mirage received first-hand information about the County’s Home Improvement

Programs. Applications are taken year round and can be obtained through the internet at <http://www.hsd.maricopa.gov/Divisions/Community-Development/Housing-Programs/Home-Improvement-Assistance.aspx>.

Maricopa County Department of Housing’s Community Action Program also celebrated its new location at 12425 West Bell Road in Surprise. This regional location will serve as a one-stop-shop for El Mirage and Surprise residents to received human service related assistance. El Mirage Councilmember Roy Delgado

joined El Mirage resident Anita Lawson to highlight the regional needs and programs to assist residents. Individuals seeking information about eligibility requirements for rental and utility assistance can visit the County’s Human Services website at [www.hsd.maricopa.gov](http://www.hsd.maricopa.gov), or call 602-506-5911.



City of El Mirage hosted a Maricopa County Housing Information Meeting. El Mirage Councilmember Lynn Selby and El Mirage Senior Administrative Assistant Ruby Arvizu attended the meeting with community members



El Mirage Councilmember Roy Delgado at the Community Action Program (CAP) Grand Opening

## Lower El Mirage Basin Park Wins Prestigious Award



From left to right, El Mirage employees: John Ramirez, Angel Quintana, Chris Hauser, Richard Miranda, Luis Avila, Jose Ruelas, Elias Navarrette, and Bryce Christo

The City of El Mirage hired CivTech to design aesthetically pleasing pathway lighting to the Lower El Mirage Basin Park. Each pole mounted solar unit contains a battery pack, photovoltaic cell, and light sensor. The batteries charge during the day and the light sensor ensures proper illumination at night.

The lights were designed to enhance park security. The task of installing the lights utilized the combined efforts of engineering and public works personnel. The solar lighting was submitted for an award from the American Council of Engineering Companies and received the 2015 Honor Award.

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### LAUGHLIN DAY TRIP TO GOLDEN NUGGET

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(on Grand Ave. 1/2 mile East of Dysart)



### SUNSET VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor:  
Steve Penick

**Bible Study  
(Sunday)  
9:00 AM**

**Worship Service  
(Sunday)  
10:15 AM**

**Youth Group  
(Sunday)  
5:00 PM**

**Prayer Meeting  
(Wednesday)  
6:30 PM**

**AWANA (Seasonal)  
(Wednesday)  
6:30 PM**

**623-933-0006**



### IGLESIA BAUTISTA SEMBRADORES DE FE

Pastor:  
Wilfredo Lopez

**Escuela Biblica  
(Domingo)  
10:30 AM**

**Servicio de Adoración  
(Domingo)  
11:45 AM**

**Clasé Discipulado  
(Domingo)  
6:30 PM**

**Servicio de Oración  
(Miércoles)  
6:30 PM**

**AWANA (temporal)  
(Miércoles)  
6:30 PM**

**623-399-5672**

Two congregations one family in Christ Jesus

11006 N. El Mirage Rd. El Mirage, AZ 85335  
[www.sunsetviewbc.com](http://www.sunsetviewbc.com)

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### THE THRIFT STORES OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

**12845 W. Bell Rd.**  
(Crossroads Shopping Center, next to Other Mothers)  
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Boutique Thrift Store, carrying quality furniture, designer handbags, jewelry and clothing!  
All purchases support St. Vincent de Paul's programs for the homeless and working-poor.

**Call (602) 266-HOPE (4673)  
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**EASTER**  
**EGGSTRAVAGANZA!**  
 Saturday, March 19, 2016  
 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 Gentry Park, El Mirage  
 Egg Hunts For All Ages!

**FREE** Photos with the Easter Bunny!  
 Arts and Crafts! Petting Zoo!  
 Carnival Rides! Music! Food!  
 Fun! Free For Everyone!

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 **COCO'S**  
**TOWING**

 **aps**

623-876-2942 [cityofelmirage.org](http://cityofelmirage.org)

 **EL MIRAGE**  
**TOWNS**

Address	Price \$	Date Sold	Total SF
12801 W Bloomfield Rd	170,000	12/30	1,901
13005 W Port Royale Ln	170,000	12/30	2,178
12309 N 127 <sup>th</sup> Ln	175,000	12/24	1,901
12858 W Aster Dr	175,000	12/24	1,972
12930 W Valentine Ave	150,000	12/24	1,549
12875 W Rosewood Dr	179,999	12/24	2,232
14610 N 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave	125,000	12/23	1,372
12713 W Via Camille	113,000	12/23	1,530
12445 W Willow Ave	165,000	12/22	1,776
14501 N 128 <sup>th</sup> Dr	175,000	12/22	2,178
12522 W Lisbon Ln	162,500	12/22	1,534
12244 W Rosewood Dr	136,000	12/21	1,238
11526 W Bloomfield Rd	140,000	12/18	1,756
12029 W Scotts Dr	150,000	12/18	1,832
12744 W Larkspur Rd	154,500	12/18	1,511
12861 W Corrine Dr	169,000	12/17	1,972
14213 N 129 <sup>th</sup> Dr	170,000	12/16	2,178
12910 W Voltaire Ave	146,000	12/16	1,284
28412521 W Ash St	80,000	12/15	1,495
12762 W Dreyfus Dr	150,000	12/15	1,495
12621 W Cherry Hills Dr	137,000	12/14	1,238
15100 N Verbena St	164,700	12/14	1,624
12427 N 121 <sup>st</sup> Dr	125,000	12/14	1,238
12504 W Saint Moritz Ln	146,000	12/9	1,308
13012 M B St	113,000	12/9	964
12418 W Ash St	63,750	12/4	1,358
12702 W Aster Dr	149,900	12/4	1,374
12926 N 127 <sup>th</sup> Dr	130,000	12/4	1,183
12939 W Voltaire Ave	140,000	12/4	1,559
13252 N Alto St	155,000	12/4	1,515
12020 W Dahlia Dr	124,900	12/4	1,089
12181 W Dreyfus Dr	155,000	12/3	1,515
12414 W Sierra St	200,000	12/3	2,287
12217 W Saguaro Ln	166,000	12/3	1,407
12533 W Sierra St	165,000	12/1	1,723
13051 N Pablo St	137,000	12/1	1,662
Avg. Home Price Sold Dec 2015	148,007		



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\*The \$600 off discount may be applied toward the purchase of any pair of hearing aids from the Connect Hearing Prompt Pay Price of any make or model in the B3, C5, D7 or D8 tiers. Not transferable to a third party. New orders only. Not valid with any other discounts, offers or prior purchases. Discount not combinable with insurance. Professional fees may apply. †Offer expires 3/31/16. ‡Same Day Fit service not available for all hearing aid models. \*Certain types of hearing loss may require a hearing aid model that is not appropriate for the Two Week Free Trial. See center for details. ††† Excluded.

A photograph of Jake Shimabukuro, a smiling man with dark hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt, playing a ukulele. The background is a solid blue color.

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Jake Shimabukuro

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**THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016 • 7:30PM**

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**FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2016 • 7:30PM**

**TICKETS START AT \$35**

**JAKE SHIMABUKURO**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016 • 7:30PM**

**TICKETS START AT \$25**

**KATHLEEN MADIGAN**

**THE MERMAID LADY TOUR**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2016 • 7:30PM**

**TICKETS START AT \$35**

The logo for the Webb Center, featuring a stylized 'W' shape composed of several overlapping, colorful triangles in shades of orange, yellow, and purple.

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Model # EF2000IS  
Limited to qtls on hand

2 x 4036100, 1 x 4036105

### LP Tanks



**\$49<sup>85</sup>**

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30 lbs      8002130



**\$29<sup>85</sup>**

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10 lbs      8002350

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**\$99**

Vista      **REG 109**

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**\$209**

Vantage      **REG 239**

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The ONLY RV Leak & Roof Restoration Repair Tape with MicroSealant Technology

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**\$1<sup>79</sup>/gal**

**Free RV Dump Station**

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STATE OF THE CITY: Highlights of the Year Past and the Year to Come, From 1



New El Mirage City Hall rendering



Economic & Community Development

New City Hall

The City of El Mirage will begin construction of our New City Hall in February 2016. Construction of the 21,776 square foot energy efficient building is expected to be completed by late 2016/early 2017.

Foreign Trade Zone

El Mirage has a 1600-acre site zoned for commercial/industrial where goods may be exempt from U.S. customs, duties, and excise taxes.

New Businesses

Fast & Friendly Express Carwash and Subway restaurant are now located at the Shell Station on El Mirage Road and Cactus Road. Enterprise Rental Car recently moved to the City of El Mirage taking advantage of the City’s affordable retail space. The new Family Dollar Store provided the City’s first pedestrian friendly

storefront along Thunderbird Road. Finally, Goodwill Industries opened its newest store on Dysart Road and Thunderbird Road.

Industrial Expansion

Southwest Steel added 20,000 square feet to an existing building for a total of 53,500 square feet. The new expansion doubles the fabrication capacity. In addition, Southwest Steel will increase the number of employees from 60 to 120.

Community Development

The value of homes in El Mirage has **increased by 10.6%** since last year. The median sales price for homes in El Mirage is \$147,975.

Future commercial streetscapes will add even more value to the City. Beautification efforts are underway with a strong focus on walkability, affordability, and sustainability.

Fiscal Responsibility



The bond rating for El Mirage has improved from A+ to AA- for Standard & Poor’s.

El Mirage Property Tax Levy Progress

The FY2016 budget is stable and revenues are increasing. The City has a fully funded five-year Capital Improvement Plan and major projects are being completed on time and on budget.



Transportation Infrastructure

Roadway Realignment

Thunderbird Road will be reconfigured to improve the connection to Grand Avenue. The stop sign at Thunderbird Road will be replaced with a new traffic signal that will be coordinated with the existing signal on Grand Avenue.

The existing Grand Avenue frontage road will be reconfigured to maximize circulation. This will facilitate the

smooth flow of traffic by saving residents and business owners valuable time and eliminating congestion.

Thompson Ranch Road will be widened north of Grand Avenue, which will increase roadway capacity for surrounding neighborhoods.

This roadway realignment will maximize multimodal travel by adding pedestrian friendly sidewalks, ADA ramps, and bike lanes.



Roadway Realignment  
Grand - Thunderbird - Thompson



Economic Development Insights:  
Economists say Arizona Economy Recovered



Tom Doyle, Economic Development Specialist

The 52nd Annual Economic Forecast Luncheon co-sponsored by Arizona State University’s W.P. Carey School of Business and JP Morgan Chase had a panel of four experts deliver an overview on state and national economies, stock and housing markets. The key take-away: **several indicators show a solid and favorable Arizona economy.** Supporting information includes the following:

1) Economist Lee McPheters (Research Professor and Director of the JPMorgan Chase Economic Outlook Center at the W.P. Carey School of Business) projects that in 2016 the Arizona economy will be on track to finally replace all jobs lost during the recession. Health care, along with hospitality and professional and business services, will account for more than half of all new jobs added in 2016.

2) Personal income is projected to grow 5% as wages, population, and employment grow. This is the largest projected growth since 2011.

3) Arizona’s employment is projected to grow 2.6 % and will likely emerge as one of the fastest growing for job creation. This growth rate is lower than pre-recession patterns with a long-term average of 4.2%, but positive just the same.

4) Positive

recovery in new-single family housing. Elliott D. Pollack, Chief Executive Officer for Elliott D. Pollack and Company, stated this will be the best year for single-family housing since 2007 and the outlook for 2016 is more positive.

5) The apartment market is strong with millennials continuing to be a boon.

How does this affect El Mirage?

1) The City saw a steady increase in average home prices sold. According to Trilla, El Mirage has a higher % gain (10.6% verses 9.2%) in price per square foot than Phoenix. The average price of a home sold in El Mirage last month was \$148,000.

2) Employment opportunities in the knowledge sector have replaced many jobs lost in construction, manufacturing, and public sector. Finances, health-care, and business services are growing throughout the valley.

3) Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) projects the West Valley as the fastest growing area in Greater Phoenix. Workforce development is key to attracting new business to the west-valley. The Loop 303, Northern Parkway, and other developments make the west-valley ripe for development.

In the end- Slow growth is better than no-growth and often healthier than unsustainable fast growth. The grip of recession still affects families but unemployment rates continue to fall (5.00% from 7.2% two years ago) projecting 2016 as a slow but steady year.



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■ 2006 FORD E350. 12 PASSENGER, XLT, V8, VAN, WHITE. 160101A ..... <b>\$9,777</b>	■ 2013 FORD TAURUS. 4DR, LIMITED, LOADED, CERTIFIED, ALLOYS, GRAY. 156492A ..... <b>\$19,777</b>
■ 2015 FORD FIESTA. 4DR, LOADED, CERTIFIED, ENVY GREEN. 160188B ..... <b>\$9,777</b>	■ 2015 FORD ESCAPE. SUV, SE, LOADED, CERTIFIED, BLACK. 27438 ..... <b>\$19,777</b>
■ 2012 FORD FOCUS. 4DR, SE, LOADED, CERTIFIED, BLUE. FT5932A ..... <b>\$10,777</b>	■ 2015 FORD FUSION. 4DR, TITINUM, LOADED, CERTIFIED, RUBY RED. 27432 ..... <b>\$21,777</b>
■ 2012 FIAT 500. 2DR, SPORT, STICK, LOW MILEAGE, YELLOW. 150867A ..... <b>\$11,777</b>	■ 2014 DODGE RAM. REG CAB, 5.7, HEMI, LIKE NEW, LOADED, BLUE. 166451B ..... <b>\$21,777</b>
■ 2012 CHEVORLET MALIBU. 4DR, LS, LOADED, SILVER MET. 160164A ..... <b>\$12,777</b>	■ 2012 FORD F150. CREW, XLT, LOADED, ALLOYS, SILVER. 166240A ..... <b>\$22,777</b>
■ 2013 CHRYSLER 200 CONVERTIBLE, LOADED, WHITE. 166644A ..... <b>\$14,777</b>	■ 2012 DODGE DURANGO. SUV, CREW, SPORT, LOADED, BLUE. 157562A ..... <b>\$22,777</b>
■ 2010 MERCURY MARINER. SUV, LOADED, ALLOYS, WHITE. 155832A ..... <b>\$15,777</b>	■ 2011 GMC ARCADIA DENALI. LOADED, ALLOYS, RED METALLIC. 166440A ..... <b>\$22,777</b>
■ 2012 HONDA CR-V. 5DR, EX, LOADED ALLOYS, SILVER. 166541A ..... <b>\$16,777</b>	■ 2013 GMC SIERRA. EXTENDED, LOADED, 4.8, V8, BLUE. 166423B ..... <b>\$23,777</b>
■ 2011 NISSAN ROGUE. AWD, 5DR, LOADED, MOON ROOF, BLUE. 166776A ..... <b>\$17,777</b>	■ 2011 TOYOTA TACOMA. DOUBLE CAB, LOADED, WHITE. 157382A ..... <b>\$24,777</b>
■ 2012 NISSAN FRONTIER. KING CAB, LOADED, ALLOYS, V6, GRAY. 27431A ..... <b>\$18,777</b>	■ 2014 TOYOTA TUNDRA. 4DR, MEGA CREW, SR5, LOADED, ALLOYS, GRAY. 27480A ..... <b>\$38,777</b>



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# El Mirage Community Garden

## February Tips and Picks

The City of El Mirage’s Community Garden has a few newly renovated garden boxes that were transformed from rail ties to concrete. A new box was added to the inventory and new members are welcome to join. February’s Master Gardener’s Lesson in the Garden will focus on Companion Planning. Bring your ideas for future garden projects and invite a friend and/or family member to plant with you on February 13, 2016 at 9:00 am.

February is an exciting time as it marks the start of our spring growing season. As you consider and plan for the types of plants you’ll be starting or transplanting, take a moment to consider companion planting. Companion planting is the placement of different crops in proximity for pollination, pest control, maximizing space, and beneficial insect habitat. For example, plant parsley, basil, and thyme near tomatoes as they will help with pests. But keep potatoes, kohlrabi, and fennel away from tomatoes as they may stunt each other’s growth. Sunflowers provide an excellent trellis for cucumbers. But beans will not thrive near them, so give them a stick trellis of their



own. More in-depth companion planting information can be found at [www.motherearthnews.com](http://www.motherearthnews.com). Keep in mind that gardening takes practices and there is a fair amount of trial and error involved. Don’t be discouraged, come be a part of the El Mirage Community Garden so we can learn and grow together.

**TIPS:**

- Prepare garden soil for Spring plantings
- Finish pruning deciduous fruit trees and grapes by the middle of the month
- Prune frost sensitive citrus after it begins to leaf out with new spring growth
- Protect plants from frost damage if the temperature is projected to dropdown into the 20’s

**PICKS:** It is a good time to plant the following vegetable seeds: Beets, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Cabbage, Chinese Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Collard Greens, Lettuce (Head & Leaf), Mustard, Green Onions, Peas, Radishes, Spinach, and Turnips.

*February’s Garden Tips were provided by Linda Gonzales and excerpts from <http://cals.arizona.edu/maricopa/garden/html/t-tips/dec-txt.htm>.*

*Meetings will not be held if weather is unfavorable.  
Call/Text 623-606-7977 for meeting verification.*

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We welcome all El Mirage seniors age 55 and older to participate in these and more activities.

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El Mirage Library

14011 N. 1st Ave.; Ph. (602) 652-3000; <http://mclldaz.org/events/elmirage>

All Maricopa County Library District branches will be closed Friday February 5<sup>th</sup> for Staff Development Training and Monday February 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents’ Day

Youth

**Winter Storytime** – February 4, 11, 18, 25 (Thursdays) 10:30 am. Ages 2 – 5 with parent or caregiver. Stories, songs, rhymes and more! Just right for your growing toddler or preschooler.

**Happy Chinese New Year Craft** – February 8 (Monday) 1:30 pm. Ages 5 – 12. Gung Hay Fat Choy! Stop in to make a fun Chinese New Year-themed craft. All supplies provided. Registration is not necessary but space is limited.

Adults

See the online calendar for full program descriptions. <http://mclldaz.org/events/elmirage>

**Exercise Your Mind. READ! 2016 Adult Winter Reading Program** – Ages 18 and up. Program runs from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. More information available online at <https://winter.mclldaz.org> or at the customer service desk.

**Morning Book Club** – February 4 (Thursday) 10:30 am-11:30 am. The title for February is: *God Help the Child* by Toni Morrison. The title for March will be *The Girl You Left Behind* by JoJo Moyes. See the online calendar for book summaries. <http://mclldaz.org/events/elmirage>

**Introduction to Computers - a one-on-one service** – February 9, 16, 23 (Tuesdays) 9:30 - 10:30 am. For new computer users, no experience needed! Learn the parts of a computer, how to use a mouse and keyboard and how to open and close windows. Users may sign up for 3 separate sessions. Drop in or phone 602-652-3000 to register beginning January 25th.

**Exercise Your Mind: What Music tells us about the Brain. An Arizona Humanities program.** – February 10 (Wednesday) 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. Guest speaker, Dr. Janice Jarrett. Music is used to unlock secrets of the brain, healing processes and learning. What potential benefits can this mysterious phenomenon have for you? This program will be in the El Mirage Senior Center Multipurpose room.

**Exercise Your Mind: Fifty Years of the Art of Fashion at the Phoenix Art Museum.** February 17 (Wednesday) 10:30 am - 11:30 am. This illustrated talk highlights masterworks and defining moment through the history of fashion and through Phoenix Art Museum’s notable fashion design collection. Appropriate ages 12 to adult. This program will be in the El Mirage Senior Center Multipurpose room.

**Blood Pressure Checks** - February 18 (Thursday) 10:00 am - 11:00 am. Roxanne Butler from Hospice Promise will be available every third Thursday of the month to take blood pressure readings. The program is held at the El Mirage Senior Center.

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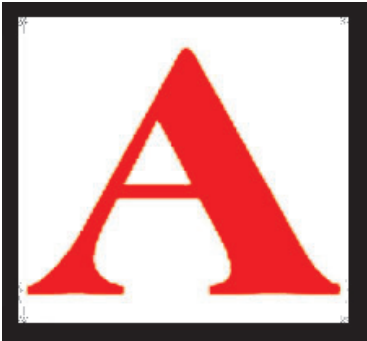
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